

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus comprising:
an imaging element,
plural optical systems having different focal lengths,
a ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element, and
a reflective optical element consisting essentially of a reflective surface that is fixedly positioned,
wherein ~~the~~ a focal length of the imaging apparatus in its entirety is changed by controlling transmittance of the ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus comprising:
an imaging element,
an optical system comprising a lens having partially locally different focal length lengths, and
a ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element,
wherein ~~the~~ a focal length of the optical system in its entirety is changed by locally changing ~~partially the~~ transmittance of the ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element.
4. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein each of the plural optical systems are corresponding is arranged to be used with the one imaging element, and
a center of an imaging area of the imaging element is substantially ~~conformed~~ aligned with optical axes of the plural optical systems.

5. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, ~~which~~ wherein the imaging apparatus has at least one optical ~~system~~ element equipped with reflective function and ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance function.
6. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, ~~which~~ wherein the imaging apparatus has at least one optical element with ~~the~~ reflective function, and
wherein the optical element with reflective function is configured so that an amount of ~~the~~ light ~~penetrated~~ transmitted therethrough and ~~the~~ an amount of ~~the~~ light reflected is therefrom are substantially equal ~~in the optical element with reflective function~~.
7. (Withdrawn) An imaging apparatus according to claim 2, which has plural imaging elements and constitutes an imaging unit forming respectively a pair with the plural optical systems having different focal lengths.
8. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the ~~lens~~ plural optical systems and the ~~transmittance-variable elements~~ variable-transmittance element are arranged closely.
9. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein two or more ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance elements are arranged ~~in one optical system~~ along a single path of rays.
10. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim ~~1~~ 3, wherein the ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element is arranged concurrently ~~in~~ at a position of ~~the~~ an aperture stop of the optical system.
11. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element has a transmittance distribution.
12. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element ~~does not have a~~ is free from any portion which that is mechanically ~~movable when displaced in~~ displaced in a photographing is ~~carried out~~ action.

13. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a body frame for holding the optical system and a body frame for holding the ~~transmittance variable~~ variable-transmittance element are ~~individually constituted respectively~~ constructed independent of one another.

14. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least two optical systems out of the plural optical systems are arranged ~~in adjacent position each other~~ side by side, and a shading member is disposed between the two optical systems.

15. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element comprises an electrochromic material.

16. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

- a display part for checking a photographing state,
- an operation part for choosing a desired focal length,
- ~~a transmittance control device for driving the transmittance variable element,~~
- ~~a power supply part for operating the transmittance control device, and~~
- a control part for controlling the transmittance of the ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element ~~by the~~ using a signal generated from the operation part, and
a power supply part for supplying electric power to the variable-transmittance element and the control part.

17. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

- a sensor part for checking a state of a photographing object,
- an operation processing part for recognizing a photographing object with ~~the~~ a signal from the sensor part,
- a transmittance control part device for driving the ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element,

a power supply part for operating the transmittance control device, and
a control part for controlling the transmittance of the ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element ~~by the~~ using a signal generated from the operation part.

18. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~processing for resetting a the~~ transmittance control of the ~~transmittance-variable~~ variable-transmittance element, which has been ~~done-controlled~~ for imaging a photographing action, is reset to an initial state ~~is carried out~~, after an imaging operation the photographing action is completed.

19. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the optical system ~~is constituted that~~ systems comprises, in order from an object side, a first lens group with negative power and a second lens group with positive power ~~are arranged in order from the object side~~.

20. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the optical system ~~systems~~ comprises at least one negative lens and at least one positive lens, and the negative lens is arranged utmost to the object side.

21. (Currently Amended) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein one of the plural optical systems is constructed as a telephoto lens and another of the plural optical systems is constructed as a wide angle lens, and satisfying the following condition is satisfied:

$$1.9 < fT/fW$$

where fT is a focal length of a the telephoto lens, and fW is a focal length of a the wide angle lens.

22. (Withdrawn) A cellular phone which is equipped with the imaging apparatus according to claim 1.

23. (Currently Amended) A ~~moving object is~~ mobile article equipped with the imaging apparatus according to claim 1.

24. (New) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the imaging apparatus has plural reflective surfaces, and one of the reflective surfaces has reflective function and another of the reflective surfaces has reflective function and transmitting function.

25. (New) An imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the variable-transmittance element comprises a LCD.